

**CITIZENS INDEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION TRUST (CITT)  
Project Review Committee Meeting**

STEPHEN P. CLARK GOVERNMENT CTNER  
111 NW 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET  
MIAMI, FL 33128  
18 FLOOR – ROOM (18-4)  
WEDNESDAY JULY 16, 2003  
3 P.M.-5:00 P.M.

**SUMMARY OF MINUTES**

**CITT ATTENDANCE**

LtCol. Colmenares, Chairman  
James Reeder  
Marc Buoniconti  
Miles Moss  
John Cosgrove  
Theodore Wide

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Virginia Diaz, Special Assistant Director OPTM  
Jose Mesa, Director MPO  
Patrice Rosemond, Chief of Public Involvement OPTM  
Aurelio Rodriguez,  
Alberto Parjus, CFO OPTM  
Pepe Valdes, OPTM  
Jack Furney, OPTM  
Nestor Toledo, OPTM  
Bruce Libhaber, County Attorney  
Roosevelt Bradley, Director of MDT  
Clinton Forbes, Assist Director of MDT  
Hannie Woodson, Rail Service MDT  
Richard Snedden, Gen. Sup. Rail/ Mover Maint.  
Patty David, Special Project Administrator, OPTM  
Roger Fabelo, Citizen  
Seraphin Bernard, Special Project MDT  
Alina Philipp, OPTM  
Hilda M. Fernandez, Mayor's Office Advisor  
Caroline Thompson, Citizens  
Dave Bartlett, Keys  
Luis E. Lugo, Citizens  
Elvira Lugo, Citizens  
Jose Colmenares, Citizens

**I. ROLL CALL**

With a quorum being present, LtCol. Colmenares Chairperson, called the meeting of the CITT Project Review Committee to order, at 3:05 p.m.

## **II. OPENING REMARKS**

LtCol. Colmenares introduced the members and welcomed everyone present. He noted that a few weeks ago he toured the MDT facilities. He wanted to commend and thank Mr. Bradley and his staff for their hard work and dedication. In addition, he met with Mayor, Alex Penelas and the County Manager, George Burgess to discuss transportation issues as it pertains to the surtax proceeds.

LtCol. Colmenares mentioned the memorandum from Danny Alvarez, Executive Director OPTM addressing the process for submitting committee agenda items. All items should be submitted 10 days prior to the committee meeting. Mr. Alvarez will review these items and he shall determine which committee will discuss the particular item. This will allow each committee chair ample time to review the items for discussion.

## **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 17, 2003**

- A. LtCol. Colmenares requested for a motion to approve the June 17, 2003 minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Reeder, seconded by Mr. Wilde and carried without dissent.

## **IV. COMMITTEE MEMBER REMARKS**

None

## **V. PRESENTATIONS**

- A. MPO- Jose Mesa

A copy of this presentation was distributed to CITT Board members at the meeting and is on file with the Minutes in the permanent record

LtCol. Colmenares introduced Jose Mesa, Director Metropolitan Planning Organization. Mr. Mesa briefly explained the structure and responsibilities of the MPO. The governing board of the MPO consists of twenty-one (21) members that act as the authority on all local transportation-planning matters and ensures that all entities engaging in transportation-related activities conform to federal laws. The Governor of Florida has designated the Board of County Commissioners to serve on the MPO Governing Board along with a member of the School Board, a member of the Expressway Authority, an elected official representing each city of more than 50,000 residents, a representative of smaller municipalities and a private citizen representing the unincorporated area of the county. The MPO is required by state and federal law to maintain a transportation plan for the urbanized areas that forecasts transportation needs over at least a twenty-year period. To date, there are approximately 340 MPO offices throughout the United States.

Mr. Mesa invited the members to attend the Transit Corridors Workshop scheduled for Tuesday, September 30, 2003 at 10:00 am – 12:00 pm in the County Commission Chambers. The workshop will discuss the status of major transit projects in the adopted Miami-Dade Transportation Plan. (Invitation and handouts distributed)

Mr. Mesa stated the People's Transportation Plan and the MPO approved projects are almost identical. He does not foresee any major projects in the PTP that will not be approved by the MPO.

Mr. Reeder asked if the projects discussed at the PRC meetings need to be endorsed by MPO?

Mr. Mesa responded that line items projects do not need to be reviewed by MPO. Only line item projects that receive federal funds need review.

LtCol. Colmenares thanked Mr. Mesa for his presentation. He stated there are many organizations working for the same goal and hopes everyone will synchronize efforts in meeting those goals.

**B. PUBLIC WORKS – Jose Galan**

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LtCol. Colmenares introduced Jose Galan, Assistant Director Public Works Department. Mr. Galan distributed and presented the Public Works Department People's Transportation Plan Projects. He discussed the two-year plan, which is broken down by Commission districts, a list of project description, and the cost of each project.

In addition, he stated Neighborhood Improvements for each commission district are broken down by description, location, limits and cost estimate for each project. He discussed a memo dated April 29, 2003 requesting 3 overage positions for a "PTP Coordination Office" from Air Rivera, Director, and PWD to the Budget Director. The request was approved by the budget office, and by Mr. Alvarez and pending CITT approval.

A second memo dated June 6 was sent to OPTM requesting approval for 15 positions in the amount of \$812,611 for the design, planning, and construction of the PTP. Once approved the request will be submitted to the Budget office for consent.

The last memo dated July 14, 2003 from Fernando Alonso, Chief, Right-of-Way Division requesting additional staff for the metro rail expansion projects. Galan addressed the pending construction contracts totalling \$13 million that need approval. Finally, there are open contracts that have been approved and can be used to begin PTP projects if accepted by the Trust.

Mr. Moss asked is the level of funding for PWD prior to the PTP is going to remain the same?

Mr. Galan replied that the general fund is the same and the overall PWD budget increased.

Ms. Diaz stated that in Exhibit 1 in the PTP "Neighborhood Improvements" total cost is \$167 million, which includes modifications of intersections, resurfacing of local and arterial road, installation/repair of guardrails, installation of school flashing signals, enhancements of greenways and bikeways, ect. As well as, accelerating programs to provide ADA accessibility to bus stops throughout the County.

LtCol. Colmenares asked Mr. Galan to make a presentation at a future PRC meeting to further discuss those action items. He suggested that the members meet with PWD individually.

**C. OPTM**

LtCol Colmenares deferred OPTM's presentation for the next PRC meeting.

## VI. ACTION ITEMS

### A. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ATTACHED LIST OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLES TRANSPORTATION PLAN.

A copy of resolution was distributed to CITT Board members at the meeting and is on file with the Minutes in the permanent record.

LtCol. Colmenares discussed in detail the two-page spreadsheet (distributed) itemizing each project by year. He stated the figures match each project. The Budget and Finance Committee will need to review and make a final recommendation to the Trust. The understanding is that many of the projects listed have been paid by the maintenance of effort dollars and were not itemized in the PTP. MDTA/OPTM is requesting to use surtax dollars to fund those projects.

Mr. Wilde asked Alberto Parjus, several questions relating to the capital projects. A written response was distributed to the committee (attached). Mr. Parjus stated that the capital projects being discussed have always been a part of the PTP and have been factored in the Conceptual Cash Flow Plan. He emphasized approving the capital projects will not affect the other projects listed in the PTP.

Mr. Libhaber the County Attorney stated that during the PTP campaign many presentations throughout Miami Dade County distributed materials that listed projects not itemized in Exhibit 1, but were always contemplated as being part of the PTP. For example, the detail bus routes that were on the web site [www.trafficrelief.com](http://www.trafficrelief.com) were not itemized in Exhibit 1. Therefore, the County Attorney's office has taken the position that since the Ordinance refers to Exhibit 1 any addition, deletion or modification to Exhibit 1 is an addition to the PTP and needs to be approved by the CITT. As stated by Mr. Parjus, those capital projects were always calculated in the budget analysis and considered part of the PTP.

LtCol. Colmenares stated he is comfortable approving the capital projects to the PTP since Mr. Parjus has stated that the projects were part of the PTP and are in the cash flow analysis.

LtCol. Colmenares questioned the Capital Projects list and noted that the first item "new and replacement buses" should be deleted. Since those have already been approved.

Mr. Libhaber stated that the item is already listed in the PTP Exhibit 1.

Mr. Moss added the word "Pedestrian" to the Additional overpass (4).

LtCol. Colmenares requested a motion to vote on the Resolution approving the Capital Projects and to forward to the Budget and Finance Committee for further discussion and approval before it is submitted to the Trust for approval.

Mr. Cosgrove made a motion to approve the Resolution by the CITT approving the list of Capital Projects (attached) in support of the PTP, seconded by Mr. Reeder.

Mr. Libhaber noted the following change in Paragraph 3 shall read "Whereas the bus fleet will increase from 700 to 1335; and Whereas, the construction of up to 88.9 miles of countywide rapid transit line are included in the PTP" to the resolution are necessary:

Mr. Cosgrove withdrew his motion to include the changes noted by the County Attorney and the Capital Project list, seconded by Mr. Reeder and carried without dissent.

## **VII. CITIZEN REMARKS**

Ms. Carolyn Thompson, Coral Gables resident commented that she uses public transportation and is very pleased with services. However, she would like to see more bus benches with shelters because the elderly need to be safe and comfortable while waiting for the buses.

Mr. Bradley responded that MDT would be installing 3,000 bus benches.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Moss stated "Since the citizen input should be an integral part of the Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT), he further motioned the "Citizen Remarks" part of the agenda should be moved on the agenda to immediately follow the "Opening Remarks" section of the agenda. The motion was second by Mr. Cosgrove and carried without dissent.

Mr. Reeder asked when are the municipalities going to be receiving their monies?

LtCol. Colmenares had asked Mr. Alvarez for a copy of all the approved Interlocal Agreements for discussion at the next PRC meeting.

Mr. Libhaber stated that the Trust could request from each municipality a list of projects. If a project is deemed questionable, the trust can recommend to the BCC to withhold further payments for non-compliance. The Trust has the authority to monitor, report and audit the municipalities. They do not have the authority to withhold monies, only make recommendations to the BCC.

Mr. Moss asked if the committee could make a motion in support of the Mayor's position regarding the proposed amendment to 02-117 Ordinance made by Commissioner Seijas.

Mr. Toledo, Interim Secretariat responded that he would ask Mr. Abrams Interim Chairman to add the item to the agenda for the next CITT meeting July 29, 2003.

## **IX. CLOSING REMARKS**

Mr. Bouniconti noted that an internal auditor might be needed to review the numbers for the capital projects. This review may not be ready by the next CITT meeting on July 29, 2003. Mr. Wilde asked for a 30-year cash flow analysis for the Budget and Finance Committee to review.

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Citizens' Transportation Trust adjourned 5:30 p.m.

**\*\*\*MINUTES ARE IN SUMMARY FORM\*\*\***

FOR VERBATIN TRANSCRIPTIONS OF THESE MEETING PLEASE REQUEST COPIES OF THE TAPE FROM  
THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AT (305) 375-3481